

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Wheat Was Quiet and Closed Higher After a Slight Range.

IN CORN THERE WAS MUCH STRENGTH

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CHICAGO, April 20.—Wheat was quiet, closing 1/2¢ higher after a range of but 1/4¢. Liquidation of May caused an easy feeling near the start, but crop damage reports held prices up. Corn was steady and closed 1/4¢ higher. Oats 1/4¢ higher and provisions closed strong after a weak opening. Wheat was quiet, with less doing than any day in the past three weeks. Opening transactions were at a trifling advance and soon afterwards sold up from 1/4¢ to 1/2¢, eased off from 1/2¢ to 1/4¢, then rallied 1/4¢ and held steady. Liquidation of May was still in progress in a moderate way. There was fair selling of May and buying of July. Grand Forks, N. D., reported two inches of snow, with little prospect of seeding for two weeks. A dispatch from Watertown, S. D., stated that there was a blizzard there yesterday and it was freezing today. Reports from what seem to be reliable sources said much of the wheat sown last month in the Northwest had been killed by the cold, wet weather and will have to be re-sown. A dispatch from California reads: "Sacramento valley promises three-quarters of a crop. From Mercer south the crop is a failure and past redemption."

The weather map showed that the storm in the Northwest was moving eastward. The weather news kept prices from going lower.

In corn there was a strong, steady feeling existing under much the same conditions as prevailed yesterday. There was more or less changing indulged in buying May and selling July, mostly at 1/4¢ difference. The day's fluctuations had a range of but 1/4¢.

A firmer feeling prevailed in oats, due to the light offerings. After a range of 1/4¢ to 1/2¢ May closed 1/4¢ from the top.

Free selling sent provisions down early in the session, but on May buying later a reaction occurred. A large volume of business was transacted, packers doing the buying. Compared with last night, May pork in 7 1/2¢ lower, lard 7 1/2¢ higher and May ribs 7 1/2¢ lower.

Estimated receipts for tomorrow: Wheat, 90 cars; corn, 275 cars; oats, 247 cars; hogs, 15,000 head.

Lard business dull at 1¢ for corn to Buffalo or Fort Huron.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles.	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, bbls.	11,000	6,000
Wheat, bu.	18,000	10,000
Corn, bu.	164,000	223,000
Oats, bu.	133,000	177,000
Rye, bu.	2,000	3,000
Barley, bu.	13,000	12,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was quiet and unchanged; creamery, 16¢2½; dairy, 11¢18¢. Eggs, quiet and unchanged; strictly fresh, 10¢10¢.